



# Office of the National Ombudsman



## Regulatory Fairness Forum for Small Business

**Friday, July 18, 2008  
Mississippi Gulf Coast**

---

**Small business owners will have an opportunity to discuss issues regarding Federal regulatory compliance and enforcement during this Forum.**

*Have you or a small business owner you know been unfairly fined or penalized by a Federal government agency, or is a Federal agency enforcement action imminent?*

**WHO:** **SBA National Ombudsman Nicholas Owens** will meet with members of the area small business community to hear issues and comments about federal regulatory enforcement and compliance actions. Small business owners, representatives of trade associations and community and business leaders are invited to participate, comment about compliance actions and enforcement of regulations by federal agencies and learn more about the impact of federal regulations on small businesses.

**WHAT:** To create a more cooperative regulatory environment among federal agencies and small businesses, Congress has directed the SBA and the National Ombudsman to hold Regulatory Fairness forums for small businesses. The National Ombudsman will direct any specific issues addressed at this forum to the appropriate Federal agency for a higher-level review of fairness than that in the enforcement action. In many instances, the National Ombudsman's action has resulted in federal agencies reducing or waiving penalties and/or compliance actions in cases of unfair or excessive regulatory enforcement.

**WHERE:** **Mississippi Gulf Coast Chamber of Commerce  
United Way West End Board Room  
11975 E Seaway Road  
Gulfport, MS 39503**

**WHEN:** **Friday, July 18, 2008  
10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.**

Members of the small business community, trade organizations and media are encouraged to attend. RSVPs should be made to Mississippi Gulf Coast Chamber of Commerce at 228-604-0014 or by email to Katie Sandoz [katies@mscoastchamber.com](mailto:katies@mscoastchamber.com) before the forum.

For additional information, visit the Office of the National Ombudsman's website at [www.sba.gov/ombudsman](http://www.sba.gov/ombudsman), or call Graham Wise at (202) 205-6774.



**Make Your Voice Heard!**



All of the SBA's programs and services are provided to the public on a nondiscriminatory basis. Reasonable arrangements for persons with disabilities will be made, if requested at least 2 weeks in advance. Contact: Katie Sandoz, (228) 604-0014.